



66307-328-7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	PATENT
)	
David C. F. GLADMAN et al.)	GROUP: 4133
)	
Serial No.: 10/517,208)	EXAMINER: Palenik, J. T.
)	
Filed: December 8, 2004)	CUSTOMER NO.: 25269
)	
BILIQUID FOAM ENTRAPMENT)	CONFIRMATION NO. 4353

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 20, 2007

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of October 26, 2007, the applicants elect the Group I invention (claims 1-6).

However, this election is made with traverse. In this regard, the present application is directed to a discrete powder (claim 1) and a process for the preparation of a discrete powder (claim 7), as well as to various products incorporating the powders (claims 18 to 23). Wheeler (U.S. Patent 6,312,760) discloses compositions comprising biliquid foams. However, there is no disclosure in Wheeler of discrete powders. Instead, Wheeler discloses only large, continuous phases of a composition which contains a biliquid foam. The examiner will of course appreciate that discrete particles have different areas of uses than continuous films. This can be seen, for instance, in Example 12 of the present application where

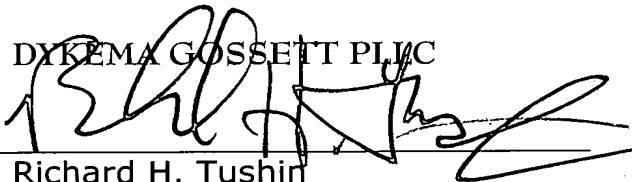
a powder is compressed in a tableting machine. It would not be possible to process the films described in Wheeler in this way. Other ways in which the powder could be used would be, for example, to include it in a polymer melt by extrusion. This would not be possible with the films of Wheeler since free oil would be released from the dry film on application of the extrusion shear. If a polymer system and a simple biliquid foam were added in the wet undried stage into an extruder, steam would be generated, resulting in air entrainment in the film, and again there would be significant amounts of free oil present. Groups II to VII are based upon this common novel and non-obvious feature.

Reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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